(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
21.	Manipur	694	35
22.	Meghalaya	662	33
23.	Mizoram	261	13
24.	Nagaland	426	21
25.	Orissa	12393	620
26.	Pondicherry	305	15.2
27.	Karaikal	73	3.7
28.	Mahe	15	0.7
29.	Yanam	7	0.4
30.	Punjab	7945	397
31.	Rajasthan	16914	846
32.	Sikkim	165	8
33.	Tamil Nadu	22547	1127
34.	Tripura	1001	50
35.	Uttar Pradesh	52926	2646
36.	West Bengal	25888	1294
	GRAND TOTAL	333068	16654

Contract System of Labour in F.C.I.

1328. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that contract system of labour is still prevalent in Food Corporation of lndia in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the reasons for continuance of this system ; and

(c) what steps are being taken to scrap this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been reported by FCI that the Ministry of Labour, which is the appropriate authority under the CL (R&A) Act 1970, has notified only six centres namely Rampura Phul, Nakodar, Banga, Bhaka-tanwala, Bhararivval and Sangrana Sahib prohibiting employment of the contract labour. However, abolition of the contract labour in the notified centres of Nakodar and Banga has not been implemented despite agreement with the Union, due to dispute with the Union in regard to identification of labourers for departmentalisation. The Corporation is making all possible endeavour to abolish contract labour in its depots in Punjab.

Release of Additional Sugar

1329. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has ordered a "Special release" of an additional 80,000 tonnes of sugar;

(b) whether any conditions have been attached with the release of additional sugar; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the conditions?

(THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) About 1.85 lakh tonnes of freesale sugar has been given as special release to various sugar factories during the last 3-4 months.

(b) and (c) The aforesaid special release of additional freesale sugar has been made on the specific condition that the sale proceeds from the additional quantity so released will be utilised only for payment of cane price arrears to the farmers and a utilisation certificate to this effect will be furnished to the Directorate of Sugar.

New Sugar Policy

1330. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new sugar policy has enforced the Indian sugar mills to step up their productivity and to become competitive in the world market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that incentive scheme has placed a premium on new units and has encouraged several companies to set up new mills; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The new sugar policy aims at improving the financial viability of the sugar industry leading to increased production of sugar. These measures would also provide consequential relief to the farmers in terms of non-accumulation of cane price arrears. The better financial position of the sugar mills will also enable them to undertake modernisation /expansion programmes to reduce their cost of production and thereby become competitive in the world market.

(c) and (d) The new incentive scheme aims at improving the viability of new sugar units, established at high capital cost, by enabling them to repay the term loans taken from the financial institutions.

Quantity of Wheat procured

1331. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the target for wheat procurement by Government agencies during this year;

(b) the quantity of wheat procured by the end of April, 1993 state-wise; and

(c) whether Government still intend to import wheat from abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) As the procurement of wheat by FCI and State procuring agencies is made under the price support operations on a totally voluntary basis, it is not possible to fix any procurement targets as such.

(b) State-wise quantities of wheat procured upto 30-4-1993 in the current Rabi Marketing Season 1993-94 are as under :—